

Romania unveils nuclear prowess

VIENNA (AP) — Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu has made what is believed to be his first public acknowledgement that his country has the capability to make nuclear weapons, according to Saturday media reports. The state news agency Agence, monitored in Vienna, quoted Ceausescu as making the statement Friday in Bucharest. "We can produce any equipment and machinery, let us commit ourselves to be competitive in any domain with the best products turned out in the world," Agence quoted Ceausescu as saying. "In this only domain we do not want to do it — that of nuclear weapons. Technically, we have this ability as well, but we do not want to commit ourselves to it, for we are firmly resolved to fight against nuclear weapons," Ceausescu reportedly told the Socialist Democracy and Unity Front, a communist organization. The statement followed unconfirmed reports last August that Ceausescu mentioned Romania's ability to make nuclear weapons to Hungarian Communist Party leader Karoly Grosz at a meeting the two had in the Romanian town of Arad. The Agence report gave no further details of Ceausescu's statement on nuclear weapons.

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King, Arafat review latest developments

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein and Palestine President Yasser Arafat Saturday discussed the latest developments in the regional and international scenes and efforts for peace in the Middle East.



His Majesty King Hussein Saturday holds talks with Palestine President Yasser Arafat (Petra photo)

eight Palestinians in the West Bank village of Nahalin Thursday was an atrocity.

He also called the attack an affront to the administration of U.S. President George Bush because it took place while Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was touring the United States.

Arafat said the recent proposals by Shamir to hold elections in the occupied territories were "a waste of time" and challenged Shamir to come up with "bold initiative."

While in the United States, Shamir proposed allowing elections in the occupied territories to elect Palestinians that would negotiate autonomy for the 1.7 million Palestinians living there.

Arafat said the PLO had put forward its own three-point initiative for a peace settlement which calls for an Israeli troop withdrawal, deployment of U.N. forces to protect the Palestinians and granting the Palestinians their rights to self-determination.

"When we will be able to exercise self-determination, we will be ready for elections under U.N. auspices," he said.

Arafat dubbed Shamir's proposal "a balloon test," and said the PLO would not accept a settlement short of Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories.

"Shamir is playing the clown in the Israeli political circus... and we are not ready to render our cause a game in this circus," he said.

Arafat described recent state-

ments by American officials as "positive," but he said the Bush administration's involvement in the peace process was "very slow."

He said the PLO expects the Americans will come up with new ideas when the U.S.-PLO dialogue resumes later this month or early in May.

He also expressed hope that King Hussein would be able to convince the Bush administration to be more actively involved in the effort to end the Arab-Israeli conflict and reach a settlement to the Palestinian issue.

"I am sure (the King) will do his best to confront the Israeli balloon test and push the Americans to support the Arab demand for a settlement based on full implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 242," he said.

He said he will meet with the King and President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt when the Monarch returns from Washington to reevaluate the American position on the peace moves.

Arafat said he will meet next month with French President Francois Mitterrand, which will mark a significant move by the French government to upgrade its contacts with the PLO.

But he refused to say whether the meeting will be held in Paris or in Cairo, where Mitterrand will make a private visit in May. Reports have suggested that the meeting might take place in the Egyptian capital.

King cables good wishes to Assad

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday paid tribute to the Iraqi president, people and armed forces for their great sacrifices during the eight-year Gulf war with Iran and congratulated Iraq on the occasion of the first anniversary Monday of the liberation of the Fao Peninsula.

In a cable to the president, King Hussein wished him continued health and happiness and further progress and prosperity for the Syrian people.

Exchange of views

Friday evening the King received a telephone call from Assad. The two leaders exchanged views about current Arab affairs of common concern as well as developments in the international arena.

Liberation of Fao turning point — King

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday paid tribute to the Iraqi president, people and armed forces for their great sacrifices during the eight-year Gulf war with Iran and congratulated Iraq on the occasion of the first anniversary Monday of the liberation of the Fao Peninsula.

The King described the Iraqi victory at Fao as a turning point in the Gulf war, signalling the beginning of the end and total collapse of the Iranian army.

In a statement to the Iraqi News Agency, the King said that the Fao battle opened the way for the liberation of the usurped Iraqi territories.

"The liberation of Fao was of paramount importance and offered a good lesson in modern warfare as it highlighted the Iraqi

armed forces' military capability and underlined the Iraqi people's determination to achieve victory," the King said.

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He said that the Fao battle had been recorded in history as one that brought about a total reverse in Iran's military and political stands. The Fao victory, the King added, was an expression of the devotion of the Iraqi armed forces and people to defend their soil and protecting the Arab Order.

Royal Decree endorses Election Law amendment

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued Saturday endorsing a cabinet decision to amend the Election Law of 1986.

The amendment abolishes West Bank seats in the Lower House of Parliament and increases the number of total seats in the House to 72 from 71, with the additional seat earmarked for the Amman constituency. The amendment cancels 11 seats allo-

cated in the 1986 law for the refugee camps in the Kingdom, and grants the right to the camp residents to nominate themselves and vote in their respective areas.

The amendment enhances the guarantees governing the proper conduct of the election process and increases the time limit for objections on voters lists.

It also facilitates and simplifies

the election procedures and tasks of election committees. The other provisions and articles of the Election Law were unaffected by the amendment. The law was endorsed by the Lower House of Parliament before it was dissolved in 1988 following Jordan's decision to sever legal and administrative ties with the West Bank.

King receives Algerian message



His Majesty King Hussein Saturday receives Algerian Foreign Minister Bousalem Bessaieh (Petra photo)

King receives Algerian message

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday received a message from Algerian President Chadli Benjedid on developments on the Arab scene and Algerian-Jordanian relations.

The message was delivered to the King by Algerian Foreign Minister Bousalem Bessaieh at the Royal Court in a meeting attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem.

Bessaieh later left Amman for Baghdad and said in a statement that his talks in Amman covered means of bolstering bilateral ties.

Qasem saw off Bessaieh upon his departure.

Beirut war turns fiercer

BEIRUT (Agencies) — A 72-year-old right-wing parliamentarian was killed Saturday when a rocket hit his apartment building in east Beirut amid renewed shelling duels.

A total of 14 seriously wounded fighters were ferried to a French navy hospital ship anchored off Beirut as a French humanitarian mission got underway, but it was unclear whether their rivals would participate.

Police said intermittent shelling duels intensified before sundown as gunners from both sides blasted Beirut and its surroundings with heavy artillery and rockets.

Police said two people were killed and 24 wounded.

The latest casualties raised the overall toll to 217 dead and 751 wounded from the five-week battle between army commander Michel Aoun's 20,000 mostly Christian troops and an alliance of Syrian and Lebanese militia forces.

A police spokesman said the parliamentarian, Louis Abu Sharaf, a Maronite Catholic, was killed by shrapnel after a rocket plowed into a third-floor apartment opposite his in the once-fashionable Ashrafieh district.

The evacuation of the 14' casualties by patrol boat from the rightist-controlled port of Jounieh had been kept secret until it was over for fear it would be impeded by shelling.

A few hours later volleys of shells slammed into Jounieh and east Beirut and shelling later spread to other areas.

The operation was the first achievement of a French aid mission impeded by a militia and diplomatic wrangling.

Acting Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss, whose government is vying for recognition with Aoun's administration, told reporters he was surprised by the French move.

One of the leaders of the Lebanese rightist alliance was quoted Saturday as saying the Christians would accept a gradual Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon, watering down the demand for an immediate pullout.

George Edwan, leader of the Tanzim Party, told the Kuwaiti newspaper Al Watan that the only condition was that a pan-Arab force be sent in to monitor Syria's withdrawal from Beirut.

Edwan, one of the Lebanese Front alliance leaders meeting with the Arab League committee on Lebanon, said that a gradual withdrawal "provides a way out of the present impasse, provided that a timetable was laid down for the Syrians' pullout from the other Lebanese territories."

Rightist demand

Two more shot dead as occupied lands brace for Abu Jihad anniversary

Palestinians under mass curfew on 'day of rage'

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israel troops shot dead a Palestinian in the West Bank Saturday and clamped widespread curfews on the occupied territories ahead of a Palestinian "day of rage."

Hospital officials in Beit Jala near Bethlehem said Imad Mohammad Karake, 23, from the Dheishe refugee camp in the West Bank died from a bullet wound later at the scene.

Dheishe was already under curfew before the shooting as Israeli forces braced themselves for Sunday's first anniversary of the assassination in Tunis of Tunis of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) military chief Khalil Al Wazir (Abu Jihad).

The army confined about 300,000 Palestinians in the West Bank and more than half of the Gaza Strip's 650,000 residents to their homes Saturday. All eight Gaza refugee camps and most West Bank refugee camps were under curfew.

Most of those victims were crushed to death or suffocated when a wall collapsed under pressure from packed and fighting Liverpool fans during the European Cup final between Liverpool and Italian team Juventus.

The incident led to the banning of English clubs from European competition.

European soccer authorities said this week they would ban the ban at the start of the 1990-91 season if English soccer showed it had solved the problem of hooligan fans.

There had been no sign of fighting on the terraces before Saturday's disaster in Sheffield.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who watched the aftermath of the incident on television, demanded an urgent report on the facts and said she "shared everyone's disbelief as the mounting horror unfolded."

Later Friday, soldiers fatally shot 18-year-old Bassel Baara in

the West Bank city of Nablus, the army said.

Baara and other Palestinians dressed in black threw stones and large blocks at an army patrol from roof tops in the Ras Al Ein neighbourhood, the army said.

Soldiers opened fire, critically wounding Baara in the head. He died later at the scene.

An Arab reporter said Baara was shot in the back and side as he ran away from soldiers carrying out arrests.

Shirts were draped over the faces of the dead as they were carried out on advertising boardings ripped down and used as stretchers.

Ambulances raced onto the pitch as police struggled to clear a way for the emergency services and doctors tried to resuscitate people crushed at the foot of the concrete terrace of one of Britain's biggest stadiums.

Hundreds of people sat stunned on the grass or searched desperately for friends and relatives lost in the confusion.

The tragedy was the second for fans of Liverpool within five years — they were also involved in the Heysel stadium disaster at Brussels in which 39 people died in 1985.

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several towns in the West Bank and Gaza, residents staged strikes to honour the dead from Nablus.

In a statement issued Saturday, the Bethlehem municipality said:

"An Israeli military force conducted a campaign of repression in Nablus... opening fire indiscriminately and resulting in a massacre. These actions are in clear violation of the human rights and Geneva conventions and basic international law."

In the West Bank village of Beit Rima, about 100 members of the Palestinian Popular Army in green and black uniforms with hoods brandished axes, knives and clubs during a demonstration for Abu Jihad Saturday.

An army spotter plane flew over and shortly after a helicopter and troops dispersed the protest, an eyewitness told Reuters. The youths scattered to hide in nearby olive groves, ripping off their uniforms as they ran.

News of Abu Jihad's death last year set off unprecedented violence in the occupied territories and the army shot dead 14 Palestinians on the day of the assassination. It was the highest casualty toll for a single day in the uprising.

Security sources said they were expecting further protests after the clash in Nablus Saturday when border police shot dead at least five Palestinians.

Abu Jihad was gunned down outside his home in Tunis April 16, 1987. At the time, Israeli sources confirmed media reports that Israeli secret agents carried out the attack. The Israeli government has refused comment.

Later Friday, soldiers fatally shot 18-year-old Bassel Baara in

the West Bank city of Nablus, the army said.

The killings have drawn international condemnation of the Israeli border police who launched a search-and-arrest mission in the village before dawn Thursday.

He said South Africa had still not informed UNTAG about a battle with SWAPO Thursday in

southern Angola.

Battles between the South African-led security forces and SWAPO guerrillas broke out April 1, when a ceasefire was supposed to take effect and the independence process was to begin.

Officials from South Africa, Cuba, and Angola, who signed a regional peace agreement in December, met last weekend and arranged a plan for the guerrillas to withdraw safely from Namibia or report to U.N. checkpoints or churches inside the territory.

About 350 of the 1,600 SWAPO fighters have left Namibia.

Almost all of them have avoided the U.N. evacuation facilities set up inside Namibia for fear of falling into South African army traps.

SWAPO pullout stalled

WINDHOEK (Agencies) — South Africa and the United Nations are at loggerheads over the pullout of nationalist fighters from Namibia and the dispute is stopping the U.N. peacekeeping force from doing its job.

"There is a total stalemate," a European diplomat said. "The U.N. and South Africa are still bickering about the interrogation of SWAPO (South West Africa People's Organisation) people and the communications between them is virtually non-existent."

Anouar Cherif, spokesman for the United Nations Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG), said communication with the South African authorities in Windhoek was poor.

In an effort to keep a U.N.-supervised independence plan on track, South Africa extended a Saturday deadline until April 21 for SWAPO guerrillas to withdraw from northern Namibia to

which seven rebels died, and there was no agreement on how to repatriate rebels to Angola.

Middle East News

JORDAN TIMES, SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 1989

Abu Ghazala appointed Mubarak's assistant



CAIRO (R) — President Hosni Mubarak appointed Egypt's top soldier as his assistant Saturday, a move which some analysts believed could establish the field marshal as presidential successor.

An official announcement said Defence Minister Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala, a hero of the 1973 war against Israel and long regarded as a potential successor to Mubarak, was appointed to the new post of presidential assistant.

Mubarak, now 60, was vice-president before succeeding assassinated President Anwar Sadat in 1981, but he has so far not appointed his own vice-president.

Abu Ghazala, 59, was replaced at the Defence Ministry by Cairo Governor Yousef Sabri Abu

Taleb, also a professional soldier.

Some Egyptian commentators said the reshuffle brought Abu Ghazala closer to the centre of power, while others suggested he would lose his power base in the armed forces.

Abu Ghazala, who was one of Egypt's four deputy prime ministers, was presented Saturday by Mubarak with one of the country's highest decorations, the Collar of the Republic.

U.S. to continue efforts to ease Mideast tension — Baker

WASHINGTON (USIA) — In an address entitled "Power for Good: American Foreign Policy in the New Era," Secretary of State James Baker told the American Society of Newspaper Editors (ASNE) convention in Washington Friday that the United States would continue its step-by-step effort to ease tensions in the Middle East and encourage dialogue between Israel and the Arab states.

Baker said "the daily violence in the West Bank and Gaza, the stones thrown, the lives lost, are all adding to an already bitter legacy of hatred between Arabs and Israelis."

"I do not doubt that after so many years of strife, there is a very deep yearning on the part of all for peace," the secretary said.

"But it's also clear, I think, that the substantive gap between the parties is far too wide, and the atmosphere is far too clouded by violence and tension and mistrust, to launch negotiations now."

"We have therefore been stressing for two months the need for a step-by-step process. Its purpose is to reduce tensions, to

Najibullah warns of regional war

KABUL (Agencies) — Afghan President Najibullah told foreign diplomats Saturday that the United States and Pakistan risked provoking a regional war.

"Violations of the Geneva accords by Pakistan and the USA pose a serious threat to the political independence, territorial integrity and national sovereignty of our country as a result of which one cannot consider impossible the danger of regional war," Najibullah said in a speech marking the first anniversary of the accord.

The agreements, under which the Soviet Union agreed to pull its troops out of Afghanistan, guarantee non-interference in Kabul's affairs.

Najibullah accused Pakistan of plotting to annex Afghanistan and giving large quantities of arms to the Mujahedeen guerrillas fighting his pro-Soviet government.

Najibullah, who is keen to project his government as Islamic

"After the completion of the withdrawal of Soviet troops, the military intelligence of Pakistan with the direct and wide support of the armed forces of that country... have resorted to armed and open aggression against our country and disclosed their evil designs of merging our country with Pakistan," Najibullah said.

Arms and funds for the Mujahedeen flow through Pakistan but it has repeatedly denied giving the rebels military help in their 10-year-old war to take power in Kabul.

The last Soviet troops pulled out Feb. 15, leaving the Afghan army to take on a loose Mujahedeen non-interference in Kabul's affairs.

Najibullah, who is keen to project his government as Islamic

through a Mujahedeen blockade.

Arnaam said the rebels attacked the convoy with rockets but he did not know how many vehicles had been hit. Drivers said at least seven vehicles were damaged.

Kabul Radio said security forces uncovered an arms cache including missiles smuggled into the Afghan capital by the Mujahedeen.

It said nine ground-to-ground missiles, a launcher, ammunition and mines were found in a rebel "safe house."

The radio said the guerrillas planned to use the arms to cause destruction and death in the capital.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Mohammad Amani said a convoy of food and fuel supplies from the Soviet Union arrived in Kabul Saturday.

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National News



CREDENTIALS: Colombia's non-resident Ambassador to Jordan, David Turbay, has handed a copy of his credentials to Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem. Turbay succeeds Mrs. Virginia Obregon who has served as ambassador to Jordan since 1986 (Petra photo).

Europarlamentarians here

AMMAN (J.T.) — An eight member team of European parliamentarians arrived in Amman Saturday evening in the course of a fact finding tour of the Middle East region. The group whose trip was organised by the Vienna-based headquarters of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), will cross into the occupied territories Sunday where they will spend three days

touring Arab areas and examining Palestinian conditions.

The parliamentarians will return here on April 19 for meetings with officials and discussions on the plight of the Palestinian people. According to an UNRWA official here, the group represents the Parliamentary Association for Euro-Arab Dialogue.

7 sentenced for drug trafficking, plotting

AMMAN (Petra) — Three Jordanians have been sentenced to prison terms ranging from seven and a half years to 10 years for trafficking with drugs and four others received prison terms for plotting to carry out robberies, according to a statement by the military court Saturday.

The statement said that Muhibbin Mohammad Al Mustapha and Baker Ali Hassan will each spend seven and a half years in prison with hard labour and pay JD 5,000 for importing and peddling drugs, while Saad Ibrahim Hassan will spend 10 years in prison with hard labour and will

pay JD 5,000. According to the statement the military court sentenced Ahmad Abdullah Rabah, Mu'tassim Mahmoud Nimer Al Haj, and Hilal Suleiman Mohammad Saleh to seven years in prison with hard labour each for conspiring to carry out robberies and use force. It said that Mohammad Darwish Mustafa was sentenced to two and a half years in prison for being an accomplice to robbery by concealing stolen items and withholding information about crimes.

The military governor Saturday endorsed the sentences.

Chemical factory discussed

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Industry and Trade is going ahead with plans to set up an industrial chemical plant near the Dead Sea. A ministry tenders committee held a meeting Saturday under the chairmanship of Minister of Industry and Trade Hamdi Tabbaa to review the bids offered for plant feasibility studies.

The ministry said that the project is expected to be carried out

RSS celebrates 19th anniversary

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) Saturday organised an exhibition displaying equipment and materials used in its operations.

The exhibition, which was opened by RSS President Jawad Al Anani was set up to mark the society's 19th anniversary.

The three-day exhibition is part of the RSS activities on the occasion.

A statement on the eve of the anniversary said that the RSS was established to help develop scientific and technological research and promote Jordanian industry and provide consultancy services to the private and public sectors in Jordan.

It said that the RSS has 34 laboratories and 11 specialised units for testing materials, analysis and research studies.

An RSS statement said that the facilities were aimed at conducting scientific and technological research and development work related to development process in Jordan with special attention to industrial research and services. The RSS, it said, cooperates with

a number of research institutions in Arab and foreign countries.

Committee discusses

JRTVC modernisation

AMMAN (Petra) — A committee has been formed to look into means of modernising the administrative and financial structure of the Jordan Radio and Television Corporation (JRTVC).

The committee which groups representatives of the Civil Service Commission and the JRTVC was formed at a meeting held at the Television Station in Amman under the chairmanship of Minister of Information, Hani Al Khasheh.

Among those attending the meeting were JRTVC Director Munir Durr, and the Civil Service Commission Director Ibraheem Izzeddin.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

* An art exhibition displaying paintings by children at the Housing Bank Complex.

RAMADAN SOUQ

* Ramadan open-air market, which includes foodstuff, clothes, home appliances and children's toys at Mahatta, eastern Amman.

FOLKLORE

* Performances by folk groups depicting traditional songs and dances at the Roman Amphitheatre downtown Amman after 8 p.m.

FILMS

* * A feature film entitled "Kupeisititkin" at the American Centre - 4:00 p.m.

Touqan reviews social work in Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Social Development Fawwaz Touqan Friday paid tribute to the work of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) and various charitable and voluntary associations in the Kingdom; and said that their work complements that of the ministry in all its aspects.

The Ministry of Social Development can by no means do without associations specialising in charity and voluntary work; indeed the ministry will go on supporting and encouraging their operations, the minister said in an interview published by Al Dustour Arabic daily.

What is needed now is further cooperation and coordination on the part of the various unions and associations so as to save efforts and expenses, but there is no need at all to merge them, the minister noted.

The minister said that the Kingdom has four main organisations that carry out large scale charitable and voluntary work. These are the GUVS, the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund, the Noor Al Hussein Foundation and the General Union of Jordanian Women.

But, he added, one should not minimise the work of such voluntary institutions like the Cerebral Palsy Foundation which provides valuable work for the society as a whole, the Nazek Al Hariri special education centre for the handicapped and Young Women



Fawwaz Touqan

Muslim Association vocational training centre which employs handicapped women to produce pieces of furniture that are on sale in the local markets.

Touqan said that the fact that Jordan hosted a U.N. regional centre for rural development which is now located at Allan, is clear proof of its deep concern over the development of local communities and rural areas. He said that a total of 23 countries in the Near East region are expected to join this centre and benefit from its activities and training.

He said that the work of the Ministry of Social Development does not only focus on the rehabilitation of the handicapped

and looking after less fortunate persons, but it concerns itself also with providing care for the family and its members especially the old people for whom several homes have been set up, and orphans who can benefit from a number of institutions.

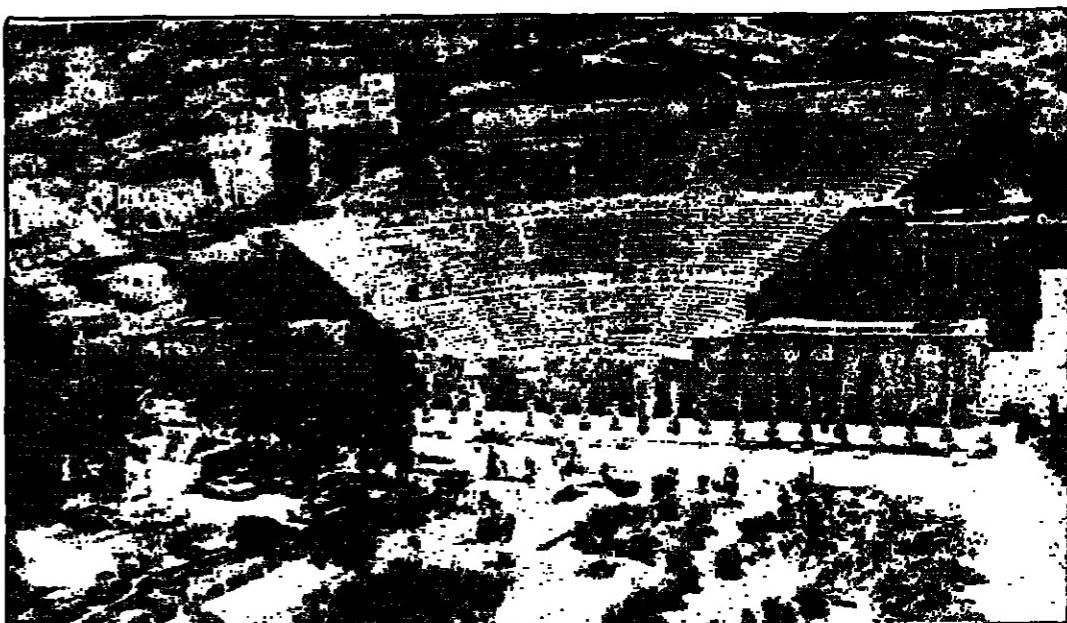
But, the minister noted, that due to close family bondage and awareness as to the need to look after the old people and orphans, Jordan has so far faced no problem in this matter and in fact the homes for the aged and orphans are only half full.

The ministry maintains close cooperation with private organisations and institutions which care for the old, the orphaned and the handicapped and also with the National Aid Fund which provides aid to the needy people, Touqan noted.

He said that beggars rarely exist in the country and they are the responsibility of the ministry and the private organisations.

But he said that a recent survey revealed that Jordan has only 40 beggars in actual need, while the rest are non-Jordanian or youths pushed to the streets by their families to become beggars.

The minister stressed that social development work is vast and takes various forms and operations, and therefore a serious effort at the national level is needed to promote it, exactly as had happened to the educational process.



Amman delights start

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The

Mohammad Hammouri.

The programme is part of the ministry's round the year campaign to boost national culture and to involve as many troupes and artistic groups as possible in reflecting the country's traditions and heritage, the minister noted.

The national heritage programme, he noted, comes in the wake of a 21 day cultural session held at the Royal Cultural Centre in Amman during which plays were presented and Jordanian poetry recited.

The ministry has chosen the

Roman Amphitheatre for the programme since it is located in the heart of the capital thus allowing the greatest number of citizens to attend and to enjoy the traditional art, the minister added. He said that attendance of all members of the public.

According to Hammouri, folk troupes from Ramtha, Fuhaia, Salt and Amman will be involved in the performances which will be held in the evening.

Apply through the post office

Muta invites students

KARAK (Petra, J.T.) — Mu'ta University Saturday announced that it is now ready to register students in its military wing for the coming academic year, and said that applications can be forwarded through post offices around the country.

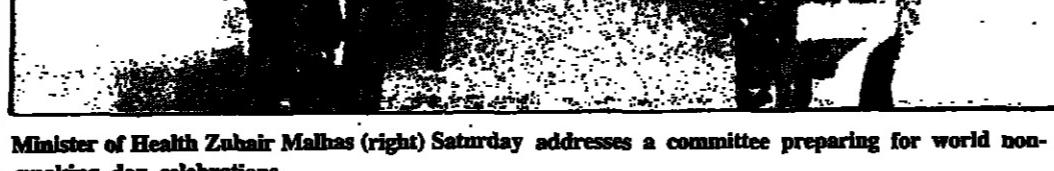
According to the announcement, students applying for seats at the military wing should have passed the Tawjih examination at 80 per cent if they wish to enrol for scientific courses and 60 per cent for the arts.

The military wing gives military training to students as well as courses for B.A. degrees in Arabic, English, electrical engineering, physics, chemistry, mechanical engineering, computer, mathematics, administrative sciences and law.

Mu'ta University which is situated near Karak in the southern regions of Jordan last year turned out the first batch of its students from the military wing who completed a four-year military and academic course.

The university first started off with the military wing fully furnished and ready for occupancy for the students in the civilian wing at locally rented buildings and the community college in Karak.

According to University President Ali Mahfza work on the civilian wing which will include classrooms, laboratories, and other buildings and dormitories started in April 1988. The civilian wing, he said, has 700 students but it will absorb no less than 3,500 by 1991.



Minister of Health Zuhair Malhas (right) Saturday addresses a committee preparing for world non-smoking day celebrations.

Committee prepares for world no-smoking day

Malhas: Smokers increasing

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Health Minister Zuhair Malhas Saturday emphasised the need for spreading awareness among the public against the dangers of smoking which he said is on the increase in the Arab countries and the Third World at large.

As the number of smokers drops in the advanced nations at the rate of one per cent, the rate of smokers in developing nations increase, by two per cent, the minister said at a meeting by a national committee preparing for the world non-smoking day on May 31, 1989.

Earlier this month, a seminar on combating smoking in Jordan was held at the University of Jordan with the participation of a number of specialists and Ministry of Health officials.

Working papers reviewed at the meeting dealt with diseases resulting from smoking.

Last month the government issued orders banning smoking in public places and said that strict penalties would be imposed on violators. The measure was taken in implementation of resolutions taken by a number of seminars to deal with the problem of smoking, and as a way of enforcing a 1976 law to this effect.

Al Amin reviews progress in Amman development plan

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Governor Mohammad Ali Al Amin has said that the five year development plan aims primarily at improving the living conditions of people in various governorates and striking a geographical balance in the distribution of developmental gains.

Speaking about Amman Governor's five year development plan, Al Amin said the government's plan focused on the industrial sector, as a pioneering economic sector, followed by the agricultural sector, and then the social services sectors.

Al Amin pointed out that last year's investments, as planned for in the government's five year development plan totalled JD 136,087,000 out of JD 687,5 million for the five year plan (1985-1990). Actual expenditure of both the public and private sectors in 1988 amounted to JD 69,308,000, representing 62.5 per cent of planned investments for that year.

Al Amin pointed out that investment in the environment sector amounted to JD 28,000, against a planned investment of JD 25,000 as contained in the plan. On the social and service sector, Amman governor said that an amount of JD 42 million was spent last year, while the planned investment according to the plan totalled JD 64 million. In the field of social development, an amount of JD 437,000 was spent while the plan called for JD 1.7 million. Among the most important projects carried out in the social sector was the National Meteorology Centre, which has been completed at a cost of JD 73,000 although this project was not included in the original plan.

In the sector of Awqaf an amount of JD 2.3 million was actually spent, thus exceeding a planned expenditure of JD 1.5 million. The expenditure included JD 50,000 for constructing a commercial project in Saqif Al Seil area in downtown Amman and in addition to other projects.

In the health sector the planned expenditure totalled JD 2.8 million while the actual expenditure amounted to JD 3.3 million, thus exceeding the planned expenditure by 17.7 per cent. The major investment in this sector went to Al Bashir hospital, where JD 688,000 were spent on developing this hospital, building comprehensive health centres at a cost of JD 402,000 on renovating and modernising the Radiology

Centre at Al Hussein Medical Centre at a cost of approximately JD 1 million.

In the youth sector, Al Amin pointed out that out of a planned investment of JD 915,000 only JD 213,000 were spent last year. Youth projects included the maintenance of Amman International Stadium, Al Hassan International Squash Centre and the athlete and equestrian field.

In the education, planned investment were JD 10.5 million, while the actual expenditure reached JD 11.3 million, thus exceeding the plans by 23.28 per cent.

Educational projects included the construction of school buildings, in addition to the purchase of school facilities, extensions to existing schools. In the field of higher education an amount of JD 1.1 million out of planned expenditure of JD 3.8 million was spent last year.

In the housing and government buildings sector, the plan allocated JD 21.8 million, while the actual expenditure amounted to JD 23.6 million, 8 per cent of the planned expenditure.

However, he noted that Greater Amman Municipality plan included an investment of JD 12.8 million, which has been spent in full. The municipality's projects included setting up intersections at main roads at a cost of JD 2.2 million, public gardens at JD 269,000, construction of new streets in addition to the maintenance of existing roads at a cost of JD 5.1 million.

The agricultural sector's expenditure totalled JD 2.5 million against a planned expenditure of JD 4.2 million. The agricultural projects carried out during the year included the development of highland, production of fruit trees, soil conservation, development of pasture land and foddars and production of veterinary vaccines. Under execution were the development of Zarqa River basin project and afforestation projects. Al Amin noted in this regard that the Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) has granted loans worth JD 1,120,795 to farmers to help them improve their land and use ground and surface water in irrigation, setting up nurseries and improving animal wealth.

In the industrial sector an amount of JD 2 million was spent, while the planned investment totalled JD 14 million. The industrial projects included completion of Amman International Fair, which has so far cost JD 333,000.

However, Al Amin noted that a JD 1.1 million sewerage improvement project was carried out although it was not provided for in the plan, in addition.

Greater Amman Water

which

was completed at

JD 312,000.

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Opinion & Analysis

Jordan Times

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Vote for peace

IT IS clear by now, especially in the wake of Soviet military withdrawal from Afghanistan, that there is a military stalemate in that country. Many weeks have passed since the departure of the last Soviet soldier from Afghanistan without either of the principal parties succeeding in achieving a complete military upper hand. Therefore there seems to be no military solution to the Afghan conflict; the only obvious result of the protracted fighting in that country being the continuous suffering of the Afghan people themselves with no end in sight. Now, therefore, is the time to heed the spirit of last year's Geneva accord between Pakistan and Afghanistan which both the Soviet Union and the U.S. had underwritten its terms.

The propitiousness of this time to move forward in implementing the letter and spirit of that accord has been accentuated lately by Pakistan agreeing to place international monitoring machinery on its border with Afghanistan, thus registering its complete willingness to fully observe, and in good faith, the Geneva accord. With Pakistan fulfilling its side of the bargain, and the Afghan people unable to settle their differences by bullets, it is incumbent on both the Soviet Union and the U.S. to move the crisis from one that is solvable by military might to one that can be resolved by ballot. Accordingly, all parties concerned should push for and pursue the ballot option to bring the Afghan conflict to resolution by peaceful means.

It must be recalled that the principal feature of the Geneva accord on Afghanistan called for the exercise of the right of self determination by the Afghan people. With outside interferences in the affairs of Afghanistan brought down to the minimal possible level, time is ripe to grant the Afghan people the right to decide their fate and future by the only sensible way left and that is by voting under international supervision.

The alternative to voting is obviously continuous killing and destruction in Afghanistan whose people had more than their share of killing and suffering. The international community, especially the two superpowers which last year affixed their seal of approval to the Geneva accord, are duty bound to "interfere" in the affairs of Afghanistan in the only legitimate way left, namely, by promoting the idea of free and democratic voting by the Afghan people and to assure the full respect and implementation of the results of this voting process.



JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Saturday discussed in an editorial Israel's most recent crime in the occupied West Bank town of Nahalin. The paper said that the massacre committed by Israeli troops resulted in the death of seven innocent people and the injury of tens of others. The ugly crime prompted the Red Cross in Geneva to lodge a strong protest with the Israeli government, and moved many countries to issue condemnations of the atrocities, said the paper. This strong repercussion indicates that the world community is appalled at the Israeli criminal actions and emphasises the need for a speedy action to be taken to end Israel's occupation and its repressive measures against the Palestinian people. The crime committed in the town of Nahalin is another evidence to the world that Israel's continued occupation of Arab land represents a flagrant violation of human rights and a direct threat to the Palestinian people and the peace and stability in the Middle East, the paper said. A speedy withdrawal of Israeli forces from Palestinian land, the paper said, is a must and should be on the top of all priorities for the United Nations.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily praises the first step by the Ministry of Agriculture towards enabling Jordan to cover its own needs of food supplies and help ensure food security. Salah Abdul Samad says that an idea formed by the ministry in cooperation with the ministries of Supply and Planning and Water and Irrigation towards this end paves the way for boosting meat production which to date forms only 18 per cent of the total needs for consumption. The writer draws the attention to the fact that the south and southeastern regions of the country remain the best site for fattening sheep and increasing the country's livestock wealth, and he notes that livestock is bound to provide the country with badly needed milk and provide employment to many people in those regions. But, the writer notes, that ideas and words can by no means help the country achieve its aspirations, and only through real efforts and practical steps can Jordan produce its needs of meat and milk and save vast amounts of badly needed foreign currency.

Al Dustour daily commented Saturday on the government's statement based on a report by the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) team which had been visiting Jordan and discussing means of stimulating the national economy. The paper said that the government's announcement of an economic programme is bound to re-establish optimism in the hearts of the citizens and promote investments. The IMF report, the paper noted followed a long and detailed study of the financial, monetary and economic situation in Jordan and the economic programme it proposed came as an endorsement of the government's measures initiated in the past year.

New opportunities for Bush in Poland, Hungary

By Barry Schwedel
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President George Bush is weighing a visit to Poland and Hungary in July as opportunity beckons for the United States to promote political reform and capitalism in Eastern Europe.

A Bush administration source, speaking on condition of anonymity, has said the president was considering an Eastern European trip, and that Poland was a likely destination.

Other administration officials have said privately that Bush was considering a trip to both Poland and Hungary after the Western economic summit in Paris in July.

Poland recently lifted a seven-year ban on the Solidarity free trade union, and Hungary is permitting some political pluralism

and market economy experiments.

Secretary of State James A. Baker, in a speech last month in Vienna, called on the Soviet Union to scrap the Brezhnev doctrine. Named after Leonid Brezhnev, the former Soviet leader who formulated it, it claims the right to dispatch its troops to protect an endangered Communist government in any East European country.

The Soviets intervened in Hungary in 1956 and Czechoslovakia in 1968 to keep Communist governments in control.

Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev may be unwilling to accept radical change in Eastern Europe.

Still, he seems determined to improve political and economic conditions at home, while encouraging some reforms among

the East European allies.

Baker, attending an East-West arms control meeting in Vienna, was impressed by the reports of reform he received from the foreign ministers of Poland and Hungary. The pace in Poland has picked up since, and Bush is preparing to announce a major programme of economic benefits.

Looking for opportunities to make a difference, the president and the secretary of state are inclined to look at Eastern Europe as an area ready for a dollop of American capitalism and Western-style democracy.

It is a policy that is bound to be well-received in the United States.

One of every eight Americans has roots in central and eastern Europe. In many cases, the ethnic and cultural affinity is strong after the passage of two or

three generations. Conservatives especially would like to "liberate" Eastern Europe from what they call the Soviet empire.

A Bush trip after his summit meeting in July with the leaders of Britain, Canada, France, Italy, Japan and West Germany could enhance his political standing at home while emboldening the East Europeans.

President Richard M. Nixon visited Poland and Romania. President Jimmy Carter went to Poland. While Bush toured some East European nations as vice president, other U.S. presidents have not been to the six countries

— Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Romania and Bulgaria — allied to the Soviet Union since World War II.

The trick in considering high-level political visits is to arrange them in a way that encourages

change instead of appearing to endorse the local government.

Mark Palmer, the U.S. ambassador to Hungary, suggests one way is to be sure to meet with church and opposition figures as well as the party leadership. That is what former Secretary of State George P. Shultz did in the Ukraine and in Soviet Georgia.

The United States and other Western countries, the U.S. ambassador said, can play a broad and important secondary role

with diplomatic exchanges and clever private initiatives.

Among Palmer's suggestions:

— Credits from the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and other institutions that are tied to specific reforms, including sharp cutbacks in the role of ministries, the Communist Party and the government in the East European economies.

The American diplomat sug-

gested a presidential visit to all six countries. He said the United States is probably more popular in eastern and central Europe than in any other part of the world.

But, Palmer wrote, "It is up to the peoples of the region to insist upon progress toward pluralism and openness."

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munications between Washington and the PLO.

At present, the very experienced U.S. ambassador, Robert H. Pelletreau Jr., is the only approved channel of communication with the PLO. This arrangement may prove too inflexible, considering the difficult road ahead for U.S. diplomacy. A concerted move by the United States, to upgrade talks with the PLO could give Arafat the confidence to consider further, difficult concessions — including those involving the intifada itself — and hopefully provide the impetus for a more constructive Israeli position.

This evolution in the American position may seem premature to some, but the U.S. dialogue with the PLO is now our most powerful vehicle for peace. It may well be that only through an intensified U.S.-PLO dialogue will Israel and its leaders finally realize that Israeli peace and security, which the U.S. considers essential, hinge on their own direct dialogue with the PLO.

U.S. should upgrade talks with PLO

By Charles H. Percy

The author was the former U.S. senator from Illinois (1967-1984), and chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee from 1980-84. He currently is chairman of the United States International Cultural and Trade Centre Presidential Commission. The article is reprinted from the Los Angeles Times.

IN THE AFTERMATH of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's visit to Washington, the Israeli government's self-defeating political stalemate on the Palestinian question has been reaffirmed.

Despite the intifada's clarion call for political change, Shamir's peace plan — local elections without international supervision — gives no real hope to the Palestinians since their acknowledged representative, the Palestine Liberation Organization, cannot take part. Fearless of a deeply divided Labour Party in Israel and confident that the U.S. Congress would not force him to account for human rights violations, Shamir declared himself "immune" from Bush administration pressure even before arriving

conduct, an essential precept for a lasting peace.

The Bush administration has largely accepted this reality. In recent congressional testimony, Secretary of State James A. Baker declared that Israel could not rule out negotiations with the PLO, thereby breaking an unspoken taboo against U.S. policy-makers publicly discussing such an option. In addition, the administration has recently emphasized the necessity of concessions by both the PLO and Israel, steps that would bring confidence and logically culminate in discussions.

The problem is that each side's ability to make concessions is in reverse proportion to their willingness to do so. As the occupying power on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Israel has available numerous concessions but has heretofore made only cosmetic gestures. At all costs, Shamir wants to stonewall any Israeli actions that might lead to either direct contact with the PLO or spark Palestinian hope for an

independent state. The PLO, starting from a basic position of weakness, has already recognized Israel's right to exist and renounced terrorism. It has little left to concede other than the intifada itself, which it would be glad to if statehood could be guaranteed at the end of the peace process.

There are two compelling reasons for the United States and Israel to be more forthcoming and realistic vis-a-vis the PLO. First, the current, relatively moderate PLO leadership continues to be threatened by secular and radical religious elements. It must achieve tangible results if it is to maintain credibility with the Palestinian people. Second, the incipient proliferation of medium-range conventional missiles in the Middle East, not to mention biological and nuclear weapons capabilities, raise the specter of what British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has called "the horrors of further conflict."

Most experts now see a permanent shift occurring in the Arab-Israeli military equation. Within the three-to-five year time frame most often mentioned as a transitional period to some form of Palestinian self-rule, at least five Arab

countries will likely possess arms capable of inflicting massive damage on Israel. Libya may have significantly shortened this period by its recent purchase of advanced jet bombers from the Soviet Union. A genuine peace process between Israel and its Arab neighbors, especially the Palestinians, must begin very soon.

No political group in Israel today appears strong enough to move from factionalism to unity and achieve peace. Creative U.S. diplomacy is essential to a process of concessions and counter-concessions that must break the current Israeli-PLO deadlock. To jump-start this process, the most promising immediate U.S. option is to rapidly normalize communication with the PLO.

Yugoslavia and Kosovo autonomy

By Goran Ranitovic

THE amendments to the constitution of Serbia, promulgated at the end of March, restored this republic's powers in the fields of internal affairs and security, defence, international cooperation and the judiciary in its provinces of Vojvodina and Kosovo.

Under the 1974 constitution, Kosovo and Vojvodina, although formally parts of Serbia, obtained rights which gave them a greater degree of statehood than the republic as a whole. Thus, Albanian Yugoslavs, the predominant population in Kosovo, became the sole national minority in the world to have an independent police force and judiciary, parliament, as well as in other federal political and state bodies, the vote of the provinces was equal to the vote of the six constituent republics of Yugoslavia. In effect, this meant that they had the right of veto over all proposed decisions, laws and various other acts.

The counterrevolution in Kosovo in 1981, when separatist forces organized demonstrations with the aim of gaining the status of a republic for Kosovo and thereby the right to secession and the creation of a Greater Albania, pointed up in the most dramatic way the abnormal constitutional status of the provinces.

It became evident that the separatist forces were able to deeply infiltrate Kosovo's political and state bodies, the police force, the judiciary and the education system. Separatist indoctrination flourished unhindered from Tirana to Kosovo through the province's international cooperation with Albania. At Pristina, University professors from Albania taught ethnic Albanian students Enver Hoxha's brand of Marxism-Leninism.

For years, as former Prime Minister Branko Mikulic admitted recently to foreign correspondents, Yugoslavia underestimated the dangers of a separatist movement.

Ethnic Albanian nationalists came very close to realizing their objective of creating an ethnically pure Kosovo. Today, only 10 per cent of the province's population of 1.9 million are Slavs, compared to 50 per cent just before World War II and 45 per cent after the war.

Kosovo was the heartland of the medieval Serbian state but the demographic composition of the region was changed by the Ottoman rule.

Prospects are that the adoption of the constitutional amendments in Serbia will stabilize the situation in Kosovo, particularly since the claims of the nationalists and the Tirana government that Albanian Yugoslavs are being deprived of their autonomy and cultural heritage and the use of their language are completely groundless.

extant that non-Albanians could not obtain employment if they did not speak Albanian. This meant that non-Albanians were required to know two languages, and Albanians only one.

Pristina radio and the two television channels broadcast programmes in Albanian over the whole day. The Skopje, Belgrade and Titograd radio and television networks, respectively, have Albanian-language programmes.

Numerous Albanian-language newspapers and periodicals are published in Pristina, including the daily Rilindja, the Fjala and Perparimi journals, the Shkendija fortnightly, the Zeri i Rumis weekly and the Pioneer children's newspaper. Plaka e Velazmeti which comes out every other day, the children's weeklies Fatosi and Gezumi, and the monthly science and culture journal Jezhena.

Out of Macedonia's 30 communes, 14 have Albanian-language schools. Albanian studies departments exist at both Belgrade and Skopje Universities.

The National Theatre in Pristina has an Albanian drama company and at Skopje's Theatre of Nations, the Albanian drama group has thus far presented 176 premiers, of which 89 by Albanian playwrights.

Areas to be included in the autonomy scheme will be decided by a plebiscite.

The limited autonomy scheme is designed to undercut demands by Muslim separatist groups which have been pressing since 1972 for Islamic self-rule in the south of the otherwise predominantly Roman Catholic nation.

Nur Misuri, leader of the main Muslim separatist group known as the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), has rejected the limited autonomy plan, saying it was an imposed solution which ignored Muslim demands and did not offer sufficient self-

rule.

The autonomy bills, approved by an overwhelming majority of the house, still have to be harmonized with separate versions in the senate before they are presented to President Corazon Aquino for approval.

Legislators said the congress decision got over the main hurdle.

Objections came from those who feared the scheme would split up the west Pacific country of 60 million people.

"Self-rule at a time when the government is still unstable might lead to destabilization and dismemberment of the republic," warned congressman Eduardo Joson, one of the few who voted against the autonomy acts.

But congressman Salvador Escudero said it could strengthen the country. "These measures should serve as the first step towards the federalization of the country. It is also in line with the constitutional mandate to decentralize the government," he stated.

They were complicated because Christian migration from the north since World War II has left only five southern provinces with a Muslim majority.

Under the congress-approved bills limited autonomy will be granted to 13 provinces and nine cities in the south.

The scheme for the mountain region of the Cordillera provides autonomy for an area spanning five northern provinces and the city of Baguio.

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Life as usual in Lebanon's shelters

By Michael Kuli
Reuter

BEIRUT — "Do you, Jeanette, take George as your beloved husband?" asked Father Boutros Khouri.

"Sorry... I can't hear you," shouted Jeanette, dressed in a white wedding gown, as the roar of exploding shells resounded through the east Beirut basement used as a family bomb shelter.

"I repeat: do you... I pronounce you husband and wife... you may kiss the bride," said Father Khouri, as he hastily brought the service to an end.

A month-long bombardment in and around Beirut has forced more than a million civilians to adapt to life in damp and gloomy shelters in base-

ments and underground car parks.

After 14 years of civil war, the Lebanese are determined to prove one thing above all: life goes on.

"As I kissed Jeanette, a Stalini organ (a multi-barrelled rocket launcher) roared in the distance instead of Mendelssohn's wedding march," said 29-year-old George Maqdisi, who works as a mechanic in peace time.

"None of us is certain to survive this bloody war. We have been in love with each other since we were 14 and finally decided it is better to die married rather than apart."

The couple had repeatedly postponed their church wedding ceremony because of the fighting in the capital.

"We spent the first three

nights of our honeymoon in a corner in the shelter rather than a quiet hotel," said George.

Fighting which erupted March 14, when army chief Michel Aoun sought to extend his power beyond the Christian enclave, has killed at least 182 people and wounded 650.

The shelter where the Maqdisi wedding took place was decorated with house plants and white ribbons collected from neighbours, who made up the congregation along with passing strangers.

Afterwards, sweets and plastic cups of lemonade were served instead of cake and champagne.

Bishop George Saliba of the Syrian Orthodox Church in Lebanon told Reuters that none of the masses at his church in the Fanar neighbourhood of east Beirut had been cancelled.

"Baptisms, marriages, engagements take place along with burials," he said. "Life will go on despite everything."

But a wedding convoy caught out by shelling must either risk speeding to the church or stop to let people take cover.

Birthdays, wedding anniversaries and other family occasions are also being celebrated in shelters, which are increasingly furnished with televisions and chairs taken from homes. Many even have telephones.

"What would you do if your wife was about to give birth to your first baby while shells are falling in their hundreds around the shelter you're hid-

ing in?" asked Joseph Souroujian.

"It was impossible to take my wife to hospital. I called the doctor but he was probably also under cover. I tried another one but he was too scared to come. I had to do it myself."

Helped by a group of mothers and instructions given over the shelter telephone from another doctor, the baby was born safely.

"It was an unforgettable ex-

perience. I was sweating a lot

and was scared to death but it

was a happy ending... we got a

healthy baby girl and saved at

least a thousand dollars in

medical fees," he said.

Joseph and Gina named

their baby Amal (hope) — in

fervent hopes of a brighter and

more peaceful future for her.



Princess Anne smiles her way through divorce speculation

Princess Anne's marriage — on the rocks or just rippled?

By Graham Heathcote
The Associated Press

LONDON — Letters to Princess Anne from a handsome side have raised speculation of a royal divorce — a subject which has wrought constitutional upheavals and brought heartbreak to Queen Elizabeth II's family.

Whether Anne's 15-year marriage to Captain Mark Phillips is really on the rocks or is simply one of those long-distance unions not unusual in the British upper classes remains open to question.

Thirty-eight-year-old Anne, the queen's only daughter, and Phillips, 40, a commoner and former army captain who runs equestrian centres, lead virtually separate lives.

The couple, who have two children, Peter, 11, and Zara, 7, were apart for more than half the time last year.

News of the mysterious collection of letters to Anne from Royal Navy Commander Timothy Laurence, a 34-year-old bachelor and equerry at Buckingham Palace, gave new life to rumours which began in 1981 that her marriage is in trouble.

The four stolen letters were delivered last week to a mass-circulation newspaper, The Sun, which did not publish them. Police are now investigating the theft.

With bold headlines, the tabloid press said Anne and Laurence are in love.

As usual, the principal characters said little or nothing.

Anne, dogged by an army of photographers, carried on with a punishing schedule of routine royal engagements. Phillips went off to Spain to see about setting

up a riding centre there and Laurence dropped out of sight. While remaining on duty as equerry at Windsor Castle, he has not appeared in public with the queen since he was identified as the letter-writer.

Anne is only seventh in line to the throne — behind her brothers Charles, Andrew and Edward, two young nephews and a baby niece — and for her a divorce would hardly mean a constitutional crisis.

It was not always so.

Divorce has hung over the royal family since the six-times married Henry VIII broke with the Roman Catholic Church in 1534 because the Vatican would not annul his marriage with Catherine of Aragon.

Each succeeding monarch is similarly head of the Church of England, which frowns on divorce.

Richard Kay, royal correspondent for London's Daily Mail, argued that another royal divorce would "erode further the concept that the royal family are somehow different from the rest of us."

In the 1970s, Princess Margaret had a widely known relationship with a London socialite 17 years her junior, Roddy Llewellyn. Newspapers regularly photographed them heading off on Caribbean vacations.

But generally for the modern royals, discretion is the key.

In contrast, Queen Victoria's heir, Edward VII, who came to the throne in 1901, was noted most for his famous mistresses: actress Lillie Langtry; social siren Daisy Brooke who became countess of Warwick and Scottish baronet's daughter Alice Keppel.

He kept up with Mrs. Keppel until he died in 1910.

Oh, that adorable tramp

By Matthew Heller
Reuter

LOS ANGELES — The little man with the toothbrush moustache, bowler hat, baggy trousers and cane is back in the big time.

Charlie Chaplin, who died in 1977 and whose most famous movie creation was the down-trodden tramp, is being feted all over the world in honour of the 100th anniversary of his birth Sunday.

The abiding legacy of one of the pioneers of the motion picture industry will be displayed at events as diverse as a gala birthday party in Hollywood, a musical tribute in Japan and the dedication of a Chaplin Square in Switzerland.

"He influenced a whole medium," said Jerry Epstein, a long-time associate of the filmmaker whose book "Remembering Charlie" will be published Sunday. "He gave comedy character, construction and originality."

Chaplin's film career began with the silent movie "Making A Living" in 1914 in which he played a commoner posing as an aristocrat. Feeling uncomfortable with the part, he raided the studio wardrobe department and emerged in the livery of the tramp.

That character formed the basis for his appeal, providing inspiration for all sorts of things



Chaplin the tramp in 1925

including computer commercials on television.

"The tramp figure, especially in Third World countries, symbolises hope and optimism," Epstein said in an interview. "It appeals to the downtrodden of

the world... no one has touched so many people as the fictional character he created."

But Chaplin's work extended far beyond the tramp and silent movies. As the director and star of such films as "Modern Times", "Limelight", "The Great Dictator" and "City Lights", he used satire to expose the evils of industrialisation and fascism.

"He grew as an artist and a person. During the depression, he developed a social conscience, he wanted to do more with his pictures," Epstein said.

"He has turned film clowning into social satire and criticism without losing his astonishing ability to make us laugh," the author J.B. Priestley wrote in a review of Chaplin's film "A King In New York".

Filgoers around the world will have a chance to see Chaplin's art for themselves in a series of centennial retrospectives and screenings. The following is a partial list:

— New York's Museum of Modern Art has been screening his feature films as well as exhibiting posters and stills, while the National Film Theatre in London and Munich's Stadtmuseum are presenting seasons of his works.

— On Sunday, "City Lights" will receive a gala screening attended by Britain's Princess Diana at the Dominion Theatre in London, where it was premiered in 1931. The film will be accompanied by the first concert performance of the music Chaplin composed for it.

Among the more unusual tributes is a three-day conference for delegates from nine countries at the Sorbonne in Paris where the French minister of culture will present a decoration to the filmmaker's daughter, the actress Geraldine Chaplin.

Further into the future, there may be a film biography of Chaplin's life. Sir Richard Attenborough, the Oscar-winning director of "Gandhi", has begun casting



A scene from Chaplin's movie the 'Great Dictator'

in London.

Hollywood, where Chaplin began his career and co-founded the United Artists Studio, will provide the stage for perhaps the most lavish celebration of all.

After the screening, a reception attended by several Chaplin associates and his son Sydney will feature a giant cake adorned with 100 candles.

Historians Kevin Brownlow and David Gill, will be screened Sunday at the same studios, now occupied by a record company, where it was shot.

For cat lovers, there is the litter box which cleans itself, with the waste collected into a removable cartridge which can be emptied once a week.

"There are 55 million cats in the United States, so the market exists and it is a \$500 million one," says its hopeful inventor Jean-Louis Laroche of France.

From large industrial concerns to the lone inventor working out of his tool shed they all flock to this annual jamboree in the hope of winning contracts for new technological processes or for that breakthrough which will revolutionise the way we live.

A survey of last year's exhibition shows that licences are

negotiated for the sale, manufac-

turing, distribution or marketing of more than 40 per cent of the novelties on display.

"The breasts are so soft that babies feel as if they are being fed by their mothers," its South Korean creator, In-Ho Park, says.

For affluent parents, a West German firm has produced an alarm system which is triggered by babies or small children falling into swimming pools.

There is a lot of research going

Inventions exhibit has everything from the practical to the bizarre

By Claude Regin
Reuter

GENEVA — "Alvaro Zucconi from Italy is trying to prove to the world it is less tiring to pedal backwards on a bicycle."

"We have been doing it wrong for a century," he tells bemused and sceptical visitors at Geneva's annual inventions exhibition, one of the world's biggest.

Australian Ted du Moulin turns garden rubbish into mulch or compost with a simple unit attached to an ordinary lawnmower, while Shin Sok-Kyun of South Korea proudly shows what he claims is the world's first solar-powered, tapeless video recorder.

Shin says patents for his revolutionary recorder are pending in many countries and he refuses to reveal how his invention works.

From Switzerland comes a cigarette lighter with a stiff flame which can be directed upwards, downwards or sideways and will resist hurricane force winds.

With this you will never burn your fingers while lighting up your barbecue fire, says the attendant behind the stand where the lighter attracts large crowds.

Or how about the button you attach to your shirt in seconds, without needle, thread or sewing

equipment. "Just screw it and forget the stress," as its Swedish inventor Gudmar Olofsson puts it. He was awarded the exhibition's top prize for his spearbut button.

For cat lovers, there is the litter box which cleans itself, with the waste collected into a removable cartridge which can be emptied once a week.

"My buffers are filled with liquid so that buildings will sway but will not collapse," he added, demonstrating his invention with a small scale model.

"One simply does not know which inventions will make it. Who would have thought that the safety pin had any future 50 years ago," one exhibitor remarked.

The screw button is already patented in many countries and the straight flame lighter will be on sale from next week in Swiss shops.

The pedal boat which folds into a small package and can be carried in a car trunk appears to have commercial potential but what about the baby bottle fitted with two soft rubber breasts?

"The breasts are so soft that babies feel as if they are being fed by their mothers," its South Korean creator, In-Ho Park, says.

For affluent parents, a West German firm has produced an alarm system which is triggered by babies or small children falling into swimming pools.

There is a lot of research going

on throughout the world on how best to protect buildings against devastating earthquakes, but they all rely on conventional methods, says Holland's Hans Lenten who is convinced he holds the key to the problem.

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There is a lot of research going

adjust to driving and road conditions.

"Automatic safety" is ensured in the latest Mercedes convertible by an entirely new design of over-roll bar. It is normally recessed horizontally in front of the hood cover, but in critical situations such as an angle of more than 25 degrees it is automatically brought into position in 0.3 seconds. Fresh air fans can feel safe in the new Mercedes SL with its newly designed seats with built-in belts and airbags to protect both driver and co-driver in the event of a crash. The hood is, naturally, raised automatically too, opening and closing within 30 seconds.

The new SL is available with six- and eight-cylinder engines. Its most powerful version, 500 SL, accelerates to 100 kilometres per hour from a standing start in 6.2 seconds. Roughly 20,000 of the new SLs a year are to run in the Federal Republic of Germany.

The Stuttgart carmakers have set about this task with a will, reconciling comfort and sporting performance in a brilliant manner by means of an adaptive absorber system consisting of four different shock absorber stages that automatically

adjust to driving and road conditions.

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The new SL is available with six- and eight-cylinder engines. Its most powerful version, 5

Bush and congressional leaders reach budget accord

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President George Bush and congressional leaders have produced a deficit-slashing budget plan with no new taxes, but a key Democratic leader warned that "hard choices lie ahead" in deciding where to cut.

Democrats said the budget compromise unveiled Friday night, which would reduce the 1990 federal deficit to under \$100 billion while cutting defence spending, could open the way to tax increases to meet the next year's budget.

Bush called it the "first manageable step" in a journey to cut deficits that have been the bane of an otherwise good U.S. economy for the past six years.

The plan would enable Bush to say he is holding to his "no new taxes" campaign pledge, while trimming the budget deficit to \$99.4 billion, just within the \$100 billion target set by the nation's budget-balancing law.

Under the agreement, Bush would be forced to accept lower defense spending and more spending for domestic programs.

"He declined to go out into the rose garden and have his picture taken because he doesn't like the agreement," said Jack Devore, spokesman for last year's Democratic vice presidential candidate.

Bentsen told Bush "that he's concerned that it depends on wildly optimistic economic assumptions and there remains a great gulf between the Congress and the administration on how you raise the \$5.3 billion in new taxes Bush is calling for," the spokesman said.

Still, Bush, his top lieutenants and most congressional leaders were upbeat.

"It is a major step toward a balanced budget," said House Republican leader Newt Gingrich.

Major elements of the agreement include:

Total deficit reductions of about \$28 billion for the fiscal year that begins next Oct. 1. The projected 1990 deficit of \$99.4 billion compares to a 1989 deficit estimated by the administration at \$163.3 billion.

— Defence outlays of \$299.2 billion, down from \$300.6 billion proposed by Bush in his Feb. 9 budget message to Congress.

— A level of discretionary domestic spending of \$181.3 billion, up from the \$175.9 billion proposed by Bush, and spending in social programmes in which benefits to individuals are mandated by law of \$556.4 billion, up from Bush's proposal for \$531.4 billion.

— A decision to adhere, without specifying in what manner, to Bush's call for \$5.3 billion in new tax revenue without enacting what the president considers a tax increase.

In Bush's budget, much of the money would come from additional revenues he expects to be gained from business growth spurred by a reduction in the tax on capital gains, those earnings from sales of capital assets such as stocks.

On other economic fronts, inflation at the wholesale level moderated last month and the U.S. economy showed more signs of slowing, while the trade deficit

widened in February as imports rebounded.

The news, which emerged in a barrage of five government reports, was a green light for Wall Street, sending stocks and bonds sharply higher.

Traders have been edgy over rising inflation and interest rates and analysts said the figures would convince the Federal Reserve Board to hold off on further interest rate hikes.

"The numbers are all saying pretty much the same thing: The economy is slowing," said economist Cynthia Latta of Data Resources, a forecasting firm.

The reports showed wholesale inflation moderated last month, while industrial output was flat and factory operating rates declined for the second month in a row. At the same time, the closely watched trade deficit widened.

The producer price index, a measure of inflation at the wholesale level, rose only 0.4 per cent following two months of sharp 1.0 per cent jumps, the Labour Department said.

But so far this year the index

has soared at a seasonally adjusted 10.2 per cent annual rate, the largest quarterly gain in eight years. The index rose 4.0 per cent in March for the second month in a row.

Despite last month's moderation, economists said inflation remains above last year's level and is not likely to abate until the economy has had several months of sluggish growth.

"The slower economy ought to mean less inflation somewhere down the road, but I don't think the March producer price index provided that link," said economist Allen Sinai of the Boston Co., an investment management unit.

Consumer price hikes have also accelerated in the first two months of the year to a 6.1 per cent annual rate from 4.4 per cent in each of the two previous years.

The Federal Reserve (Fed) has been fighting inflation by raising interest rates over the past year to cool the economy, which has been expanding for more than six years.

Economists said the latest reports make it unlikely that the Fed will raise interest rates soon. Some even said the reports may convince the central bank to ease up on credit to avoid the risk of a recession.

"I wouldn't say we are in a recession yet but certainly we are in a stage of declining economic growth," said Lawrence Chimerine, chairman of the Wefia Group.

jumped 5.3 per cent to \$39.4 billion.

Business equipment accounted for half of the \$2 billion increase in imports, suggesting that investment remains strong and that companies are optimistic about the future.

But Americans remained hungry for foreign cars and expensive gadgets. Imports of cars and vehicle parts rose \$800 million while the bill for consumer goods went up \$700 million.

The wider trade gap was in line with expectations.

Commerce Secretary Robert Mosbacher was optimistic.

"Despite the erratic movement of the foreign trade balance over the past several months, I continue to be encouraged that the annual deficit will show further improvement in 1989," he said in a statement.

The deficit with Japan, Washington's thorniest trade problem, soared to \$4.66 billion in February from \$3.53 billion in January.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

		Saturday, April 15, 1989	
		Central Bank official rates	
		Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	536.0	542.0	406.7 411.2
Pound Sterling	291.2	292.5	235.8 257.8
Danishmark	288.2	291.3	
Swiss franc	221.2	222.7	184.7 190.6
French franc	55.2	55.9	157.1 158.2
Japanese yen (for 100)			406.7 411.2
Dutch guilder			235.8 257.8
Swedish crown			84.7 85.4
Italian lira (for 100)			32.3 32.6
Belgian franc (for 10)			157.1 158.2

Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarizes trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, April 8, '89 and ending Wednesday April 12, '89. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Per value
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Banking and financial institutions

Industrial Development Bank	4000	6518	1.600	1.630	1.000
Petra Bank	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Islamic Bank	9192	18570	2.050	2.010	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	500	700	1.400	1.400	1.000
Jordan Gulf Bank	10000	12800	1.300	1.280	1.000
Housing Bank	405	770	1.900	1.900	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	—	—	—	—	1.000
Caro Anman Bank	—	—	—	—	5.000
Bank of Jordan	806	12436	15.450	15.400	5.000
Arab Bank	1850	275470	147.000	150.500	10.000
Jordan National Bank	5350	13131	2.510	2.450	1.000
Jordan Finance House for Development	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	900	1871	2.350	2.300	1.000
Finance and Credit Corporation	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Financial Investments	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Portfolio Securities	6196	5444	0.890	0.880	1.000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Securities Corporation	—	—	—	—	1.000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	—	—	—	—	2.000
Beit Al Mat Saving & Investment for Housing	—	—	—	—	1.000

Insurance and reinsurance

Middle East Insurance	15050	30103	2.150	2.000	1.000
Jordan French Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
REFCO Life Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Insurance	23496	69126	3.160	2.680	1.000
Ara Life and Accident Insurance	10600	11554	1.070	1.090	1.000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	2400	3120	1.300	1.300	1.000
Holy Land Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Philadelphia Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Union International Insurance	153	162	1.170	1.010	1.000
Jordan Life Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan-Gulf Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
General Arab Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Ahliya Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
United Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000

Services and industries

General Investments	2468	1840	0.740	0.750	1.000
Darco for Housing and Investment	13500	9971	0.740	0.730	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Aqaro)	11387	7340	0.670	0.640	1.000
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	2575	901	0.360	0.350	1.000
Jordan Leasing Corporation	—	—	—	—	1.000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	8202	1399	0.680	0.670	1.000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Ta'eerco	2000	540	0.770	0.770	1.000
International Contracting & Investment	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordanian Electric Power	7662	11155	1.480	1.450	1.000
Irid District Electricity	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab International Hotels	59751	59416	1.010	0.990	1.000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	1.000
United Middle East and Commodore Hotels	400	188	0.530	0.440	1.000
Garage Owners Federation Office	925	4248	4.550	4.600	1.000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	7300	7789	1.060	1.070	1.000
Jordan Press Foundation	100	278	3.000	2.710	1.000
Jordan Press and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1.000
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing	650	319	0.500	0.490	1.000
Jordan Dairy	6452	61			

Sports

JORDAN TIMES, SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 1989

NBA Roundup

NEW YORK (AP) — Kelly Tripucka scored 34 points as the Charlotte Hornets beat the Philadelphia 76ers for the third straight time, 119-115, Friday night.

The Sixers saw a five-game home winning streak snapped by the Hornets, who had broken a nine-game losing streak with a victory at New York Wednesday.

The 76ers are the first NBA team to lose three games to the Hornets, who broke even with Philadelphia in six games this year.

Charles Barkley led the 76ers with 25 points and Mike Gminski added 21.

Dell Curry came off the bench to score 21 of his 23 points in the first half for the Hornets.

Celtics 113, Cavaliers 104

Rookie guard Kevin Gamble, who had scored 50 points in his entire NBA career, had 20 points, 10 assists and seven rebounds as the Celtics won their 14th consecutive home game.

The victory improved Boston's record to 40-37 and gave it a two-game lead over Washington in the battle for the eighth and final Eastern conference playoff berth. The Celtics also moved within two games of Philadelphia for the seventh spot. All three teams have five regular-season games left.

Kevin McHale led Boston with 25 points, Reggie Lewis had 24 and Robert Parish 21.

Nets 123, Bulls 111

Chris Morris scored five straight points to ignite a 15-2 third-quarter run and the Nets extended the Bulls' losing streak to a season-high five games.

New Jersey made 16 of 23 shots in the third quarter, when it outscored Chicago 39-26, and the hot-shooting continued in the fourth quarter as the Nets made nine of their first 11 and finished the second half 28-for-42.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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HEED THE WARNING SIGNAL

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♦ K 10 9 4
♥ A 7
♦ A 9 6 2
♦ A 10
WEST
♦ 6 ♦ 5 2
♥ J 10 ♦ 8 6 3 2
♦ Q J 10 8 7 5 3 0 Vold
♦ Q 5 ♦ K 9 8 6 4 3

SOUTH
♦ A Q J 8 7 3
♥ K Q 5 4
♦ 4
♦ 7 2

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♦ 4 6 6 ♦ Pass
Pass

Opening lead: King of ♦
South, declarer at six spades, indulged in a trick-reduction play on this hand. He started out with 12 tricks and ended up with only 11.

West's pesky four-diamond pre-empt created a major problem for North. His fine fit and wealth of controls meant that his side could possibly make a grand slam, but there was no room to investigate with any degree of accuracy. His de-

cision to bid six spades was a practical solution and meets with the approval of this department.

West led the king of diamonds against the slam. Declarer could count six spade tricks, three hearts, a trick in each minor and a heart ruff, for a total of 12. He called for dummy's ace of diamonds. Unfortunately East ruffed, and in the fullness of time declarer had to concede a club trick for down one.

Declarer had paid no heed to the bidding. It was quite likely that West had started with eight diamonds for his four-level pre-empt. As long as declarer could protect his winners from getting ruffed away, he was sure to make his slam.

The first step in that campaign should have been to duck the king of diamonds at trick one! That allows the defenders to score a trick in a suit where declarer, in theory, has no loser, but the trick will come back. Declarer can win any continuation (if it's a diamond, he ducks again on the table and ruffs in hand) and proceed about his business. After drawing trumps, he can discard his club loser on the ace of diamonds and ruff his heart loser on the board.

As soon as I got to the fountains I thought I was going to hit short like my dad and have to deal with that," he said. "I wanted to do it with no hands but I held on because I thought I wasn't going fast enough."

"It's great to go out on a positive note," said Rich Rose, Director of sports for the hotel. "This is the way we'd like to close the book on it."

Knievel was guaranteed \$250,000 for the jump, but his take could be much higher depending on the pay-per-view profits.

Evel Knievel watched from only a few steps away as his son landed easily and sped into the underground garage where a brain surgeon and a dozen paramedics were waiting in case the worst happened.

After the Knievel, 50, made the jump famous when he crashed on landing and flipped like a rag doll through the parking lot.

Knievel ended up unconscious for a month in a local hospital and broke nearly every bone in his body.

Knievel landed just short of a

huge white X on the landing ramp and kept his hands on his handlebars as he soared over the fountains. Earlier he had said he would let go of the handlebars if he thought he hit the jump just right.

"I thought I was going to land short like my dad and have to deal with that," he said. "I wanted to do it with no hands but I held on because I thought I wasn't going fast enough."

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Knievel became the first stuntman — and probably the last — to negotiate the fountains. His father and Gary Wells, who crashed in 1980, were critically injured trying the same leap.

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The older Knievel rode out of the garage and back up the landing ramp, where his father, Evel Knievel, ran out to hug him.

"That was for you dad, I love you," Knievel said to his father, who spent 30 days in a coma after missing the same leap in 1987.

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Evel Knievel watched from only a few steps away as his son landed easily and sped into the underground garage where a brain surgeon and a dozen paramedics were waiting in case the worst happened.

The older Knievel rode out of the garage and back up the landing ramp, where his father, Evel Knievel, ran out to hug him.

"That was for you dad, I love you," Knievel said to his father, who spent 30 days in a coma after

missing the same leap in 1987.

Knievel landed just short of a

huge white X on the landing ramp and kept his hands on his handlebars as he soared over the fountains. Earlier he had said he would let go of the handlebars if he thought he hit the jump just right.

"I thought I was going to land short like my dad and have to deal with that," he said. "I wanted to do it with no hands but I held on because I thought I wasn't going fast enough."

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"It's great to go out on a positive

Georgians bury their dead as criticism of troops grows

MOSCOW (R) — Thousands of people, many carrying black flags, joined funeral processions through the Georgian capital Tbilisi Saturday for the victims of clashes between troops and demonstrators in which 19 people were killed.

Authorities blocked the centre of Tbilisi to traffic as several corteges, each made up of a thousand or so people, made their way through the city to separate cemeteries, a journalist at the Georgian news agency Gruzinform told Reuters.

Local journalists said the city was calm, despite growing demands from the population for the withdrawal of troops, who used clubs — and according to some reports sharpened shovels — to break up last Sunday's demonstrations.

The soldiers, who apparently were sent to Tbilisi earlier last weekend, maintained guard on key points of the city, some of them in tanks and armoured personnel carriers.

"The whole city is in mourning, most women are wearing black and some of the young people are carrying black flags," the Gruzinform journalist said.

He said fresh flowers covered the section of the Rustaveli Prospekt in front of the government building where 16 people, 10 of them women, were killed when troops broke up an all-night meeting of around 8,000 people. Three people died later in hospital.

'Flamboyant' China leader dies at 73

PEKING (R) — Hu Yaobang, former Chinese Communist Party leader, died of a heart attack in Peking Saturday, the official New China News Agency said.

Hu, once the protege of senior leader Deng Xiaoping and still a member of the party's powerful Politburo, was ousted in January, 1987, by hardliners after a wave of student protests calling for more freedom and democracy.

Hu, 73, suffered a heart attack April 8, the agency said. He was given all possible medical attention "but to no avail."

The agency said Hu had another sudden, major heart attack Saturday morning.

Western newspapers reported Hu suffered his first attack during a meeting of the Politburo last Saturday.

"I should point out that the fact he is ill has nothing directly to do with the Politburo meeting," Premier Li Peng told reporters Wednesday on leaving for Japan. Li said he had visited Hu in

want to maintain calm with their own forces."

"They see the troops' presence here as a kind of moral pressure on the population," another journalist said. "It is like having a stranger in your home."

The army newspaper Krasnaya Zvezda Saturday defended the presence of troops in the city and said some "bitter-minded" people were trying to incite young people to attack them.

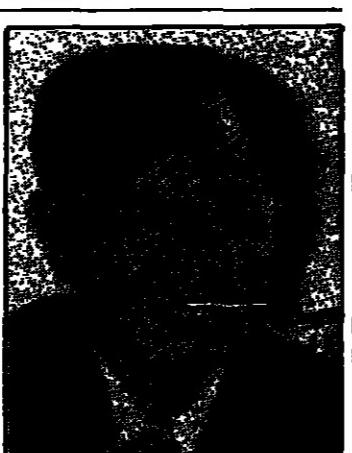
"In some districts military cars are being attacked with bottles and stones at night," it said.

Authorities investigating the clashes have been looking into reports that the troops used sharpened shovels as well as clubs against the crowd which chanted nationalist slogans.

Krasnaya Zvezda said Friday reports were circulating in Tbilisi that troops who broke up the demonstration had been drunk and had "butchered women and girls with military shovels." It quoted a medical student as saying he saw corpses with shovel wounds.

Tbilisi residents said the troops attacked the crowd with "uncontrolled fury" and several witnesses said local police had tried in vain to protect people from the onslaught.

A report by the Novosti News Agency said at least one of the 19 victims died of gas poisoning. Many others were apparently crushed in the crowd as troops moved in.



Hu, a strong advocate of Deng's ambitious economic reforms which have transformed life for most of China's one billion people, became party leader in 1980.

He was one of China's first leaders to travel widely, taking the message of his country's new open-door policy to Japan, Australia, Western and Eastern Europe.

Like many of China's veterans, his political career suffered cycles of successes and defeats.

China marks '1.1 billion day' with warning of national disaster

PEKING (R) — China declared its population reached 1.1 billion Friday, twice as big as at the time of the 1949 revolution, and warned of national disaster unless fresh efforts were made to enforce birth control.

Government leaders and the state-run media acknowledged that the country's draconian "one-child" policy had largely failed and said population could reach an intolerable two billion next century if birth control was neglected.

The People's Daily said China had made a grave mistake by rejecting the advice of population experts in the 1950s, but did not name the leaders then — Chairman Mao Tsetung.

Mao in the 1950s called birth control a "bloodless genocide" plotted by enemies of China and

attacked economist Ma Yichu for advocating it. Only in the 1970s were widespread population controls introduced.

The estimate of 1.1 billion Friday is considered a low one by some Chinese researchers, one of whom told Reuters the country probably passed the figure in the latter half of 1988.

Vice-Premier Tian Jiyun told a Thursday meeting in the Great Hall of the People the outlook for economic growth was bleak if current birth rates continued, straining food supplies, health care, transport, housing and employment.

Tian attacked the "laissez-faire" attitude to birth rules in some rural areas, an apparent jab at local authorities who have relaxed them in the face of peasant hostility.

The People's Daily said the population would reach 1.7 billion to 1.8 billion in the middle of next century if present birth rates continued.

Legal wrangle erupts over rival claims of marriage to ecologist

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — A legal struggle is on to decide who is the wife of the late, world-acclaimed Brazilian ecologist, Francisco "Chico" Mendes. According to a lawyer involved, the issue could determine the distribution of money paid by international filmmakers to bring his life story to overseas movie and TV screens.

Eunice Feitosa de Menezes, who claims to be Mendes' first and only legal wife, has asked a court in Acre state to confirm her marital status to Mendes.

Her lawyer said her only goal is to have her marriage recognised. But asked if she will try to obtain the film rights from Mendes' widow, Izamar Mendes, if the court finds in her favour, the lawyer said, "Of course we will."

The case is expected to be considered by the court in two to three weeks.

Mendes, 44, a rubber tappers' union leader who fought to save the Amazon jungle from deforestation, became the focus of

world attention when he was gunned down by the son of a cattle rancher late last year outside his modest wooden house in the jungle town of Xapuri, 4,300 kilometres northwest of Rio.

The death of Mendes, who had won a United Nations award for his struggle against Amazon ranchers eager to clear the rain forest for grazing, struck a deep chord worldwide.

Hollywood producers, eyeing the dramatic value of a story about a confrontation between ruthless, powerful Amazon landowners and humble rubber tree tappers, have rushed to inquire about shooting a movie about the life and death of Mendes, regarded by many as the world's first environmental martyr.

The project could bring as much as \$300,000 to the rubber tappers, Pescador said.

"We need economic resources to continue our work," he said. "The movement is in a delicate stage after Chico's death, and our opponents know it."

Communists, Solidarity prepare for polls

WARSAW (R) — Poland's Communist Party leadership Saturday began preparing for parliamentary elections that the opposition will contest for the first time since 1947.

The official PAP news agency said a plenary meeting of the 230-member Central Committee, the party's policy-making body, discussed strategy and adopted position papers to brush up the communists' image in readiness for the campaign.

Lech Wałęsa and the top leadership of the independent Solidarity Union also met Saturday in

the northern port city of Gdańsk to discuss opposition strategy for the June poll.

The opposition has agreed to run for parliament for the first time since 1947 under liberalised election rules agreed at reform talks earlier this month.

There will be no direct competition for the 460-seat Sejm (lower house), in which the opposition will run for 35 per cent of the seats and the Communists and their allies for the other 65 per cent.

But the rival forces will clash in a race for a new democratically-

elected senate with 100 seats — the first free parliamentary body to be introduced in a wave of East Bloc reforms.

In Warsaw, a party source said one of the party documents spelled out progress in liquidating the communists' Stalinist heritage. Another gave "the whole truth" about Soviet responsibility with the Nazis for the start of World War II.

The source said the documents were intended to emphasise the party's patriotism and were part of a process of transforming it into "a normal, modern leftist

party."

He said reformist party members felt it was moving towards transformation into a Western-style social democratic party capable of winning elections, although the party was not yet ready to adopt this as its official line.

The communists' election campaign shifts into top gear at a national conference May 4 and 5 at which they will hold a full debate on the documents and present their election programme to the nation.

Column 8

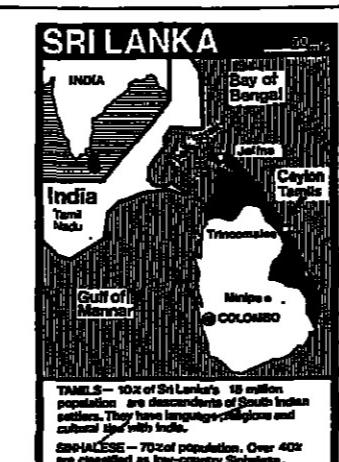
Grace Jones out on bail

KINGSTON (AP) — Grace Jones, the flamboyant singer and film actress, has been freed from jail after a court granted her bail on a charge of possessing cocaine. Magistrate Carol Lawrence-Bessick released the Jamaican-born Jones on \$2,700 bail Tuesday. In condition she returns for trial June 6. Jones, 36, who became a movie star in the James Bond film "A View To Kill," sat on a prisoner's bench, occasionally conferring with her lawyer. She was not asked to enter a plea. Her lawyer, Tom Tavares-Filson, told the court the entertainer is not a drug user, and is involved in the campaign against drug abuse. She had been held in a police station cell since Saturday, when police charged they found cocaine wrapped in two-dollar Jamaican bills in her purse. If convicted, she probably will be fined rather than jailed because of the small quantity of the narcotic involved, court observers said. Jones was arrested after police raided the Music Mountain Recording Studio in the Kingston suburb of Stony Hill, which also doubles as the home of her husband, record producer Chris Stanley.

Global weather

(major world cities)

	MIN	MAX	°C	F	°C	F	Weather
AMSTERDAM	06	13	11	52	Cloudy		
ATHENS	10	50	21	70	Sunny		
BAHRAIN	27	51	38	100	Cloudy		
BANGKOK	27	59	25	85	Cloudy		
Buenos Aires	14	57	30	85	Cloudy		
CARDO	14	43	17	63	Cloudy		
COPENHAGEN	09	43	17	63	Cloudy		
FRANKFURT	07	45	10	50	Cloudy		
GENEVA	05	41	08	46	Cloudy		
HONG KONG	19	65	21	70	Cloudy		
ISRAEL	12	51	18	64	Cloudy		
LONDON	12	51	19	64	Cloudy		
LOS ANGELES	16	60	21	70	Cloudy		
MADRID	04	38	16	61	Cloudy		
MECCA	23	73	38	100	Cloudy		
MIAMI	23	73	27	81	Rain		
MONTEVIDEO	01	34	07	45	Cloudy		
NEW DELHI	16	60	21	70	Cloudy		
NEW YORK	03	37	15	59	Cloudy		
PARIS	03	37	15	59	Cloudy		
ROME	08	43	21	69	Cloudy		
TOKYO	17	63	20	69	Cloudy		
VIENNA	09	48	11	52	Cloudy		



Bordes returns, ready to tell all

LONDON (R) — Pamela Bordes, the former beauty queen said to be involved in a House of Commons sex scandal, has returned to Britain ready to share her story with the security authorities and the readers of a tabloid newspaper.

"I am now ready to tell what I know. I feel I have kept quiet for too long," Bordes, 27, told the Evening Standard newspaper from her hideout somewhere in the south of England.

"After much heart-searching I am now prepared to make myself available to the authorities to answer any questions involving British or international security," she said.

Since she hit the headlines a month ago, feverish media coverage has linked her with two British Sunday newspaper editors, members of parliament and a top official of the Libyan secret service, prompting calls for a security inquiry.

Buckingham palace took the highly unusual step of issuing a press statement aimed at clarifying the circumstances under which she met Captain Mark Phillips, the husband of Queen Elizabeth's daughter, Princess Anne.

Britain's tabloid newspapers had tracked her down to the tropical Indonesian island and then accompanied her to Hong Kong amid a scramble to buy up her story. The Daily Mail plans to start serialising it from next Monday.

It was not clear when she returned to Britain.

Her media success has been clouded only by an article in the Sunday Telegraph which alleged that all the publicity had been carefully engineered by a top public relations man she had engaged to help her become an actress.

Taiwan may abandon vow to retake China

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — The Taiwan government may abandon a vow to reconquer the Chinese mainland if Peking recognises Nationalist sovereignty over Taiwan, Justice Minister Hsiao Tien-Tzang was quoted Saturday as saying.

A decree spelling out Taiwan's aim of regaining the mainland, criticised by the opposition on the island, was imposed in 1949 when the Nationalists lost a civil war on the Chinese mainland and fled to Taiwan.

The decree was issued by the lawnmaking legislative Yuan said Hsiao told the assembly Friday that all that is needed is for China to approve a "one China, two governments" formula being promoted by the Nationalists.

"Whether we continue to fight the communist rebels depends on the response from the other side of the Taiwan straits," Hsiao said.

Taiwanese newspapers, in dis-

patches from Tokyo, said Chinese Premier Li Peng, who is visiting Japan, rejected the Nationalists' suggestion Friday to recognise the mainland to abrogate its one-China policy.

The legislature is being retained to perpetuate Nationalist rule in Taiwan.

In February, the Nationalists

decided to encourage about 200 aged

legislators in the 297-seat legisla-

tive Yuan to retire with offers of

large bonuses, but less than 10

have agreed to step down.

The decree also allowed the Nationalists to retain in office legislators who were elected on the mainland as a way of supporting the Nationalists' claim to be the legitimate government of all China.

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